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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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|-----------------------------|---|---------------------------------|
| In re Application of: |) | |
| | : | Examiner: Dwight Alex C. Tejano |
| TAKASHI CHOSA ET AL. |) | |
| | : | Group Art Unit: 2622 |
| Application No.: 10/576,212 |) | |
| | : | Confirmation No.: 7014 |
| Filed: April 17, 2006 |) | |
| | : | |
| For: IMAGING APPARATUS |) | |
| USING A KEY IMAGE IN | : | |
| IMAGE RETRIEVAL OR |) | |
| READING OUT | : | |
| (AS AMENDED) |) | April 22, 2010 |

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

FOURTH INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a. Copies of the listed foreign patent documents, together with English-language abstracts thereof, are enclosed.

The listed documents were cited in an Office Action dated January 25, 2010, issued in counterpart Japanese Patent Application No. 2004-173010. A copy of the Japanese Office Action, together with an English-language translation thereof, is also enclosed.

The concise explanation of relevance of the Japanese documents is found in the attached English-language Abstracts thereof. In addition, U.S. Patent No. 6,816,633 is a U.S. counterpart to JP 2001-52011, U.S. Patent No. 5,644,765 is a U.S. counterpart to JP7-160731 and U.S. Patent No. 6,674,472 is a U.S. counterpart to 11-317930.

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement.

FORMAL MATTERS

No fee is believed due; however, any fee required in connection with this paper should be charged to Deposit Account No. 06-1205.

CONCLUSION

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that an initialed copy of the enclosed Form PTO/SB/08a be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

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